

UConn School of Medicine Research Council (RC)

Monday, April 13, 2026

Minutes

Present: Manuel Castro-Alamancos, Brenton Graveley, Jayesh Kamath, Jun Lu, Pedro Mendes, Carla Rash, Anthony Vella

Guest: Michael Centola, Kimberly Dodge-Kafka, Susan Fowler

1. **Minutes** – Upon a motion made by Dr. Vella, seconded by Dr. Graveley, Research Council members voted unanimously in favor to approve the minutes of the March 9th meeting.
2. **Springer-Nature discussion** – Research Council invited Susan Fowler, Director of the UConn Health Library, to discuss the recent changes to Springer-Nature access. Due to budget constraints, Springer-Nature journals in which we don't currently have subscriptions to or backfiles, would have to be accessed via inter-library loan. Typical delivery through the inter-library loan is within 24 hours. Ms. Fowler noted that while the UConn Health Library is closed on weekends, users needing immediate access can submit loan requests through the Storrs campus library system. She noted that access to core Springer-Nature does not change, which include Nature, Nature subject-specific journals, etc.).
3. **Advancing Scientific Rigor in Biomedical Research** – Dr. Manuel Castro-Alamancos shared concepts emphasizing scientific rigor in research to measure success. Research Council agreed scientific rigor is widely important and agreed to continue this discussion at an upcoming meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:57PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Holden